

HARBERD et al -- Serial No.: 09/911,513

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

C15 49. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence coding for a polypeptide of which the amino acid sequence comprises the 17 amino acid sequence that is underlined in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2) and has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity with the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2).

50. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence coding for a polypeptide of which the amino acid sequence comprises the 17 amino acid sequence that is underlined in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2) and has at least 90% amino acid sequence identity with the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2), wherein expression of said nucleic acid in a plant results in inhibition of growth of the plant, the inhibition being antagonised by gibberellin (GA).

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51. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid having a nucleotide sequence coding for a polypeptide which comprises the 17 amino acid sequence that is underlined in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2) and which includes an amino acid sequence which has at least 90% identity with the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2), wherein expression of said nucleic acid complements a GAI null mutant phenotype in a plant, such phenotype being resistance to the dwarfing effect of paclobutrazol.

52. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of a nucleic acid coding for the amino acid sequence as shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2), under the following conditions: hybridization without formamide for 18 hours at 65°C, with washing once with 3 x SSC (1 x SSC is 0.15 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate), 0.1% SDS for 25 minutes at 65°C, and once with 0.1 x SSC, 0.1% SDS for 25 minutes at 65°C.

53. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of a nucleic acid coding for the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2), under the following conditions: hybridization without formamide for 18 hours at 65°C, with washing once with 3 x

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SSC (1 x SSC is 0.15 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate), 0.1% SDS for 25 minutes at 65°C, and once with 0.1 x SSC, 0.1% SDS for 25 minutes at 65°C, wherein expression of said isolated nucleic acid in a plant results in inhibition of growth of the plant, the inhibition being antagonised by gibberellin (GA).

54. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes to the complement of a nucleic acid coding for the amino acid sequence shown in Figure 4 (SEQ ID NO:2), under the following conditions: hybridization without formamide for 18 hours at 65°C, with washing once with 3 x SSC (1 x SSC is 0.15 M NaCl, 0.015 M sodium citrate), 0.1% SDS for 25 minutes at 65°C, and once with 0.1 x SSC, 0.1% SDS for 25 minutes at 65°C, wherein expression of said isolated nucleic acid complements a GAI null mutant phenotype in a plant, such phenotype being resistance to the dwarfing effect of paclobutrazol.

55. (Amended) The isolated nucleic acid according to any one of claims 50, 51, 53 and 54 wherein said plant is *Arabidopsis thaliana*.

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56. (Amended) The nucleic acid according to any one of claims 49 to 54 further comprising a regulatory sequence for expression.

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C₆^u 57. (Amended) The nucleic acid according to claim 56 wherein the regulatory sequence comprises an inducible promoter.

58. (Amended) A nucleic acid vector suitable for transformation of a plant cell and comprising the nucleic acid according to any one of claims 49 to 54.

60. (Amended) The host cell according to claim 59 which is a plant cell.

C₁₄ 61. (Amended) The plant cell according to claim 60 having said heterologous nucleic acid within its genome.

62. (Amended) The plant cell according to claim 61 which is comprised in a plant, a plant part or a plant propagule, or extract of a plant.

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63. (Amended) A method of producing the cell according to claim 60, the method comprising incorporating said nucleic acid into the cell by means of transformation.

64. (Amended) The method according to claim 63, which comprises recombining the nucleic acid with the cell genome nucleic acid such that it is stably incorporated therein.

65. (Amended) The method according to claim 64 which comprises regenerating a plant from one or more transformed cells.

66. (Amended) The method according to claim 65 comprising sexually or asexually propagating or growing off-spring or a descendant of the plant regenerated from said plant cell.

67. (Amended) A plant comprising the plant cell according to claim 61.

68. (Amended) A method of producing a plant, the method comprising incorporating the nucleic acid according to any one of claims 49 to 54 into a plant cell and regenerating a plant from said plant cell.